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June 14, 1935

Dr. B. B. Brackett
Radio Station KUSD
University of South Dakota
Vermillion, S. D.

Dear Dr. Brackett:

As the representative of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters, it has been my privilege and pleasure to attend meetings of the National Committee on Education by Radio in Washington, D. C., September 24, January 21, and March 25.

As a result of serious consideration given to radio problems during the past four hearings the NCER at its meeting on March 25, 1935, adopted a report of a subcommittee on the proposal for a national supplemental public broadcasting system. The report was presented before the joint meeting of the Sixth Annual Institute for Education by Radio and the Fifth Annual Assembly of the National Advisory Council on Radio in Education on May 7, at Columbus, Ohio, by Dr. A. G. Crane, president of the University of Wyoming.

Dr. Crane is chairman of the radio committee of the National Association of State Universities and vicechairman of the National Committee on Education by Radio. The proposal as presented by Dr. Crane was well received by the joint assembly and, in the discussion that followed, much was found to commend the plan and little criticism was offered. This proposal for a national supplemental public broadcasting system was again effectively presented by Dr. Crane at the hearing before the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, May 16. At the conclusion of the hearing, Chairman Sykes announced that further study of the plans proposed for improving educational broadcasting would be made by a committee to be appointed by the Federal Communications Commission and headed by the United States Commissioner of Education, Dr. J. W. Studebaker. The other members of the committee will be announced later.

The National Committee on Education by Radio is happy over the agreement which

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has finally been reached and desires that this plan be given the fullest possible publicity as a test of public opinion, believing that the plan is sufficiently meritorious and practical to serve as a rallying point for those of us who believe in the potential services of radio. I suggest that you hand this material to your publicity officer to make brief summaries for use in the press of your state. This is important as we expect to get support from a large part of the press, particularly the papers that are not themselves owners of or affiliated in any way with broadcasting stations.

For your convenience I am enclosing a stenographic report of Dr. Crane's presentation before the Federal Communications Commission on May 16 and a copy of EDUCATION BY RADIO, volume 5, no. 6, May 16, 1935, which contains his address as it was presented at Columbus, Ohio. I am enclosing a 16-page green pamphlet giving information about the National Committee on Education by Radio. A brief outline of the proposal for a Federal chain will be found in this pamphlet on pages 10 and 11. Finally, I am enclosing a clip sheet which may be helpful in the press publicity to which I have referred.

The next most important step is for you to give adequate publicity to this plan in every possible way thru the press and by public addresses in your community. We believe the plan has much merit and few, if any, objections. There is no conflict with the present broadcasters since the proposed broadcasting system does not supplant, but supplements the radio work that is now being done. We hope it will be possible for Dr. Crane to appear at our September meeting of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters. In the meantime, do all that you can to study this plan and give publicity to its proposals.

Yours very truly



W. I. Griffith
President - NAEB

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records
at the Wisconsin Historical Society as part of
"Unlocking the Airwaves: Revitalizing an Early Public and Educational Radio Collection."



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